I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filling system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: September 19, 2008 Signature: /Christina M. Sperry/ (Christina M. Sperry) Docket No.: 101896-0242

(DEP5294)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Mark C. Boomer et al.

Application No.: 10/709,246 Confirmation No.: 3245

Filed: April 23, 2004 Art Unit: 3733

For: SPINAL IMPLANT CONNECTORS Examiner: M. C. Hoffman

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This paper is in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated September 11, 2008.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.